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# CUBA SWAP IS DONOVAN'S 2d RED EXCHANGE

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## Negotiated Release of U-2 Pilot

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[By United Press International]

Conclusion of the Cuban prisoner ransom swap will make soft-spoken James B. Donovan, a two-time winner in negotiations to free hostages of communist nations.

The silver-haired attorney traded drugs and medicines to Cuban Premier Fidel Castro for 1,113 prisoners taken in the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion.

The 46-year-old New Yorker also is the man who traded the Russians a convicted spy for U-2 Pilot Francis Gary Powers and a bonus American student.

### Defends Spy Master

Donovan walked onto a bridge between West Berlin and Potsdam with a pistol in his topcoat pocket Feb. 10, 1962, to climax an exchange he had forseen three years earlier.

It was in 1957 that Donovan agreed to be defense attorney for Col. Rudolph I. Abel, the communist spy master who for nine years carried on his espionage activities from an artist's studio in Brooklyn.

Abel was convicted of spying and sentenced to die. Donovan, on appeal, had the sentence reduced to 30 years in prison.

"It is possible," he said at the time, "that in the foreseeable future an American of equal rank will be captured by the Soviet Union or an ally. At such time, an exchange of prisoners thru diplomatic channels could be in the best interest of the United States.

### Negotiates with Red

On May 1, 1960, Powers' U-2 plane was downed on a flight 1,200 miles inside the Soviet Union. He was tried as a spy and sentenced to 10 years in a Russian jail.

Earlier this year, Donovan negotiated for eight days in East Berlin with a Russian named Ivan Shiskin, ostensibly a second secretary of the Russian embassy, but actually head of the Russian secret police in Europe.

The deal reached a conclusion in the middle of the bridge at 3 a. m. on Feb. 10. Donovan had been authorized to swap Abel for Powers, but, on his own, he argued for and won better terms. The Russians also freed Frederick L. Pryor, an American student.

Donovan is a corporate lawyer who recently was defeated by incumbent Republican Jacob K. Javits for United States senator from New York. His first introduction to top secrecy and the intricacies of espionage came during World War II.

### Counsel for OSS

He served with the navy in

underwater demolition during the war and later was named general counsel of the office of defense research, which dealt with the Manhattan project—the atom bomb and biological warfare.

Donovan then moved to chief counsel for the office of strategic service, America's super-secret spy agency. Later he was a prosecutor at the Nuernberg war crimes trials.

The Irishman has always been a scrapper. His face bears a scar and one of his hands is slightly damaged from his days as an amateur boxer.

At Fordham university, he was editor of the student newspaper and played on the tennis team. On graduation, classmates voted him the "best all-around" player.

Donovan and his wife, Mary, live in Brooklyn with their four children.